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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ATTORNEY GENERAL MCGRAW DISTRIBUTES FUNDING TO THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF PARKERSBURG FROM THE PURDUE PHARMA, INC., SETTLEMENT FUNDS

Attorney General Darrell McGraw today announced the distribution of \$10,000 to the Boys & Girls Club of Parkersburg to fund its children's programs aimed at drug abuse prevention. This money comes from the latest installment in the \$10,000,000 settlement with Purdue Pharma, Inc., over the addictive qualities of the drug Oxycontin. This funding represents the final award of a total of \$90,000 presented to Boys & Girls Clubs across the State.

The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of Parkersburg will be using this funding to establish the SMART Moves program. SMART Moves is a nationally acclaimed comprehensive prevention program that helps young people resist alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use, as well as premature sexual activity. SMART Moves features engaging, interactive, small-group activities that increase participants' peer support, enhance their life skills, build their resiliency and strengthen their leadership skills. This year-round program encourages collaborations among Club staff, youth, parents, and representatives from other community organizations.

The terms of the settlement agreement entered into with Purdue Pharma, Inc., direct that the settlement funds be distributed to drug education and intervention programs and also to law enforcement programs aimed at drug abuse education and prevention. The mission of the Boys & Girls Club is to offer guidance and support to children whose support system may need supplemented by mentors and additional adult influences. The use of this funding to educate and divert children away from the use of harmful substances is further in keeping with the Boys & Girls Clubs' long held mission to instill children with life skills that will help them avoid the pitfalls of poor judgment. The presentation of this funding fulfills the mission of the Boys & Girls Club and is in keeping with the intent of the terms of the settlement agreement entered into by Purdue Pharma, Inc., and the Attorney General's Office.

"It is an honor for my office to see the fruits of our labor go back to the citizens we serve by putting this funding into programs such as the Boys & Girls Club and therefore the community." McGraw stated.

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